



MANNNA

October 2022



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MURRAY, KENTUCKY

NOTES FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

WILL MCKAY

“we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face” (1 Thess. 2:17, ESV).

One eighteenth-century pastor wrote that the second chapter of 1 Thessalonians is the best portrayal of pastoral affection in the New Testament. I think I agree. Paul describes here a ministry motivated by *love*; in his model we hear echos of Jesus. “We were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us” (2:8) sounds a lot like “the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark. 10:45). Of whom did the apostle write these things? A people he had known for a relatively short amount of time.

The Apostle Paul did not rely simply upon time when forging meaningful connections with people. He appears in Scripture to be neither helped nor hindered in his mission merely by calendar days—love built over three years in Ephesus (Acts 20:31) seems no greater than that born over three weeks in Thessalonica (Acts 17:2). His example reminds time-sensitive types that some things must be born and nurtured by the Spirit of the Lord. . . and Christlike love is one of those. That which is sudden is not necessarily superficial. The bond between them, orchestrated by God, reminds us of God’s power to work—both then and now.

As I read these lines again recently, I found Paul’s words giving voice to my own motivations and ambitions. I feel as if I barely know you. . . but I do already love you. I am ready to see you, and learn you, and share experiences with you. I want to see your faces and hear your voices. I’m tired of transition and distance. . . I’m ready to be with you.

I don’t have words or space to express our sincere gratitude for the hospitality that you showed us on the weekend we came last month. Special thanks are due to the Pastor Search Team, church staff (including Pastor Rusty), and various committees for their labor during the interim. I also thank the entire congregation for the patience and perseverance you exhibited while trusting the Lord and His timing in connecting us with one another.

Lord willing, I will see you in just a couple more weeks. Pastor Rusty has graciously agreed to continue preaching until October 16, my first Sunday in the pulpit. I hope to see as many of you as possible in the several days leading up to that date. Until then, I am wrapping up my work with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and all our belongings into boxes. We do appreciate your prayers.

Last, I want to encourage you to remember our World Mission Offering, which begins September 25. Our theme this year, based on Revelation 7:9, is “Every Nation. . . Before the Throne.” Please pray about how the Lord would have you and your family participate in this expression of our shared mission.

Yours in the Lord—

Pastor Will



NOTES FROM THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

RUSTY ELLISON

First Baptist Family,

This is my last Manna article... kind of hard to believe! For me, for Pam, for us, it's been a great six months and a wonderful blessing that God has given us to come be with you during this time of transition.

As I am sure all of you are by now aware, I'll pass the baton to Will McKay on October 16th. My last Sunday to preach will be October 9th. While Pam cannot always make the trip, she will be with me most of the time as we approach the completion of our time with you all.

It has been a great privilege to serve as your transitional pastor. If you have been in worship during the past six months, you know that I came to you all with a deep sense of appreciation for the rich history and heritage of this church. FBC Murray was so important in my summers, as my entire Murray family was an integral part of this church. That God arranged the circumstances for me to be here again at this time is amazing!

Now, it's time to grow in our anticipation and excitement of the McKay family coming! Your search team was the finest with whom I have ever worked, and I am convinced that with God's leading they connected with the right man. I want to thank the Pastor Search Committee Chair, Sarah Cunningham, and the entire team for the way they prayed, worked, and got the job done so well. I also thank them because they kept me "in the loop" throughout the entire search. If only every search team that I worked with would be so diligent.

Just a brief bit about where Pam and I are in life as we prepare to leave you. You all know how important Crossings is to us. The camps we launched in 2000 have grown so much. Over 10,000 kids and students have crossed over from death to life. Over 200,000 have attended Crossings, and for next summer we already have 20,766 registered, our first summer ever over 20,000! Imagine: that's more than 20,000 campers who will hear the good news of Jesus Christ over and over again during their time at camp. I thank this church for your support of Crossings throughout the years!

Pam and I are transitioning to a new place in life as well. On November 1, my role at Crossings is moving from full time to one day a week throughout the year and two or so days a week during camp. My role will be to serve as the lead encourager, cheerleader, and pastor to the entire Crossings team. I'll also be working hard to finish my doctoral studies at Southeastern Seminary. All I have left is my final project and I hope to be through writing by February 1 for spring graduation. Soon thereafter, summer will start and camp will be underway. Therefore, my plans are not to take another transitional church until fall of 2023.

Know how much we love you all and we appreciate the love you have shown us. We will forever be grateful to you all for trusting us during this season in the life of your church. As we prepare to move on, we never say "good-bye." Instead, I always say "see you later," believing we will return. So that's my close today! Love you so much, even now it's hard to say, but truly we will "see you later."

Blessings,
Rusty

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE/DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR JASON ELLERBROOK



Church Family,

Be sure to mark your calendar for a couple of significant events coming up in the fall.

The "Epic Journey" Women's Conference will take place from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm on Saturday, October 15, in the Family Life Center. Registration begins at 8:30 am. Tyra Lokey-Robinson will be the guest speaker for the conference. Tyra and I were students at Murray State together and her testimony and ministry has impacted people all around the world. Register for this conference at fbcmurray.org/women.

The Fall Festival will take place from 4:00 – 6:00 pm on Sunday, October 23, in the Family Life Center. We are collecting candy and two liters of soda for this event. You can drop these off at the Welcome Center next to the Fall Festival sign. This is a great event to invite your friends and neighbors to!

We will begin our second session of MidWeek Bible Studies on Wednesday, September 28. I will be leading FBC men in room 303. Casey Springer will be leading a Bible Study on *Jude* by Jackie Hill Perry for women in 306. Debbie Plummer will be continuing her Bible Reading Group for women in room 301.

Make every effort to join us for the Fellowship Supper at 5:00 pm on Wednesday evenings and you can join a study or serve with the children and/or students at 6:00 pm. Visit fbcmurray.org/midweek for more information

I am so thankful to be a part of a loving and giving church!

In Christ,
Jason



save the date



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 15 | 9:00 AM-1:30 PM
FAMILY LIFE CENTER
THEME: EPIC JOURNEY
SPEAKER: TYRA LOKEY-ROBINSON

REGISTER AT
FBCMURRAY.ORG/WOMEN

It's time to begin thinking about Operation Christmas Child!
Boxes will be available for pickup on Sunday, October 16!
Shoeboxes can be dropped off in the FBC office.



NOV. 14-21
National Collection Week

PACK A SHOEBOX





NOTES FROM MATURE ADLTS GROWING IN CHRIST (SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY) BOYD SMITH

Hello M.A.G.I.C. Friends!

Here we are in October, entering into Autumn, which is one of my favorite seasons. I have been gone for about four weeks or so by now with two more to go. Even though I'm writing this article prior to leaving, I'm sure I will be so ready to be back with you and continue ministering to the FBC family that I love. Our M.A.G.I.C. luncheon for this month is on Monday, October 24, and will be at Paris Landing, TN. It's been years since we last went there and I hear that it's very nice. Be sure to sign up no later than Wednesday, October 19. I look forward to seeing you!

In Christ,
Boyd

NOTES FROM MUSIC MINISTRY MIKE ROSE



Hello friends!

It is a new day at First Baptist Church! We are so happy to welcome our new pastor and family and I'm sure you will join me to show gratitude to our search committee. I'm sure there will be lots of changes and I am excited about what God is and will continue to do at our church!

We are beginning rehearsals for Christmas music on Sunday, October 9! We have several seats open and we would love to fill every one of them! There are several folks who at one time or another sang in the church choir at FBC and are no longer singing with us. Now that we are back to worshipping together, there is a need for others to come and help us lead others in worship. Please consider coming back and joining us, even if it is just for Christmas! Choral music is very important to the history of FBC and we would love for you to join us as we continue that rich heritage!

We are also in need of folks who could add their instrumental expertise to our worship team. At present, we need a few folks to play guitar as well as other instruments which might add to the experience we all have on Sunday mornings. Please see Michael Higdon or myself if you have a talent and would like to play in this group. This is a super group of people and we would love for you to experience the love everyone in this group feels. Whether in choir or playing an instrument, there is certainly room for you. Please consider joining us!

It is such a pleasure to serve you here in Murray. Thank you for joining your voice with ours as we worship each Sunday!

Blessings!
Mike

NOTES FROM KIDS1ST MINISTRY

RACHEL RIQUELME



Parents, the October TAWG (Time Alone With God) sheet is available for you to pickup in the Welcome Center or you can find it at fbc-murray.org/kids.

It is time for Fall Festival! Fall Festival will take place on Sunday, October 23, from 4:00-6:00 pm at the Family Life Center! It is such an incredible opportunity to connect with our community! Please make plans to attend, serve, and invite your friends!

We need lots of candy donations and they can be dropped off outside the office in the Welcome Center. We also need two liters for a ring toss game and those can be dropped off in the same place as the candy. Yard signs with Fall Festival information will be available shortly for you to pick up and put in your yard!

We will have inflatables, games, a meal, face painting, and a lot more! Please sign up to work a game, set up, tear down, or greet!



FBC MURRAY

FALL FEST

October 23

4:00-6:00 pm

Family Life Center

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP FALL FESTIVAL RUN SMOOTHLY! SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP OR VISIT FBCMURRAY.ORG/EVENTS.



NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN

TINA MYERS

Kids, stop by the library to see some of our new books on display right inside the library door. We have an exciting series called *The Secret of the Hidden Scrolls* that both boys and girls will enjoy, along with some other new chapter books. Also, look for our Bible Infographics books which are full of neat pictures and fun facts!

The author of the month for October is Randy Singer. Randy is a pastor and a lawyer. His books are legal thrillers woven with biblical truths on controversial issues. Randy's books will be on display through October 31.



NOTES FROM STUDENT MINISTRY

JON KYLE ALLRED

Hello church family. Thank you for praying for me and my family these last couple of months. It has been a journey for sure. I would like to briefly explain what God is doing with us!

As most of you know, we made plans for more than a year to move to Southern California for me to pursue seminary education. Jamie and I both had great teaching jobs already lined up at a large Christian school in Santa Clarita that would begin August 1. We still had many questions about where we were going to live. Through the process, we searched and searched for housing without any good leads. The housing economy in Los Angeles is no joke! However, we didn't lose hope and were still planning to move believing the Lord was going to provide in His timing. Then on July 7th - everything changed.

As we were returning home from youth camp, we received a phone call from Jamie's doctor about some concerning health issues spotted on a prior ultrasound. Due to the nature of the results, Jamie's doctor wanted to monitor her health for the next 8 weeks to make sure everything was going to be ok. This definitely caused concern! After praying, we decided not to move. We agreed to stay and be patient, waiting on the Lord for His next steps. After this decision, I called my new boss at the school in California and he told me that although he was concerned for my wife's health - he was also concerned about paying us! He had lost some funding and income and said he wouldn't be able to pay his new hires! Wow. God always knows what's best for our lives!

Update on my wife's health: she is completely fine and healthy! Nothing to be concerned about and we appreciate the prayers.

Let me say this: I don't really know what will happen next! We are praying for our next steps to be revealed and we truly believe in His timing. God will not forsake us, but lead us. I know the Lord is leading me in a transition from working in student ministry as my vocation. However, this church is very gracious and loving and has offered to keep me on staff as the interim student pastor through December 31 of this year.

God has been so good to our church and to our family. The Allreds love each of you! Please continue to pray for us in this journey. God is always good and always on time.

Jon Kyle, Jamie, Halle, Anna Grace, Nora, and Layla

Remind 101 Texts



Text @fbcmky
to 81010 to
stay connected
on all youth
ministry
things!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MURRAY, KENTUCKY



LIFEGROUP

JOIN A LIFEGROUP THIS FALL!

COME EXPERIENCE LIFE CHANGE IN A SMALL GROUP
SETTING WITH STUDENTS YOUR AGE. LIFEGROUPS ARE ON
SUNDAY AFTERNOONS AT THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER AND
ARE LED BY TWO COLLEGE STUDENTS.

CONTACT JON KYLE IF YOU ARE WANTING TO GET
CONNECTED TO A LIFEGROUP!



October Prayer Guide

A Prayer Guide for Pastor Will McKay and his family

In honor of Pastor Appreciation Month, we as the Body of Christ can form a prayer shield to hold before Pastor Will and his family as he comes to lead FBC Murray.

October 1 | John 1:16

Pray for the Lord to pour His abundance upon Will, Jennie, Liam, and Sammy. Pray that He will pour grace upon grace, spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, favor upon favor, and gift upon gift as they move to Murray to make their home here and at First Baptist.

October 2 | 2 Timothy 1:6

As Pastor Will prepares to enter this new place of ministry, pray that the Spirit would fan the flame and keep burning the gracious gift God has given him to speak words and principles that uphold and honor the Gospel message.

October 3 | Psalm 121:1-2

Pray that Pastor Will's private time with the Lord would prepare him, energize him, and strengthen him for his ministry.

October 4 | Exodus 17:10-11

Pray that we as the Body of Christ will be partners in the success of Pastor Will's ministry by being faithful in prayer that he may accomplish all the Lord has assigned him to do at FBC.

October 5 | Acts 20:24

Pray for the whole of the ministerial staff to fulfill their calling in all the varied ministries to which God has assigned them and the reason the Lord has placed them at FBC.

October 6 | Matthew 6:11

Pray that the power of God will supply what the McKay family needs on a daily basis as they move and establish their home in Murray.

October 7 | Deuteronomy 32:10

Pray for the Lord to provide for personal and family protection – spiritually, physically, relationally, mentally, and emotionally – as the McKays move from that which has been familiar to that which is new and unfamiliar, knowing they are most precious to Him.

October 8 | Ephesians 6:16

May we as the Body of Christ be willing to share in Pastor Will's ministry by praying for him faithfully, lifting up a shield of prayer to surround him and the entire ministerial staff.

October 9 | Joshua 3:5

Pray with thanksgiving for Rusty Ellison's leadership in calling us as the church to be consecrated and prepared to be on mission with Pastor Will and our ministerial staff as we move into a new era of Kingdom work.

October 10 | Matthew 11:28-30

Pray that as Pastor Will begins to hear the stories of the people of FBC that he will not be weighed down by the needs, but will link himself with Jesus to carry these requests and concerns to the Throne of grace.



October Prayer Guide

A Prayer Guide for Pastor Will McKay and his family

October 11 | John 17:26

Pray for the love of the Father to flow through Christ, giving us as the church family a spirit of love for Pastor Will as our brother in Christ and Jennie as a sister in Christ. May all hearts remain tender toward one another.

October 12 | Ephesians 1:16-17

Pray we as the church will welcome Pastor Will with thanksgiving and will remember him in our prayers. May the Lord give him a Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Christ.

October 13 | Romans 8:26-27

May the Holy Spirit give us ongoing prayer language to continue to intercede on behalf of Pastor Will and all our staff.

October 14 | James 1:5

Pray with confidence that as Pastor Will seeks wisdom to minister to the whole of the congregation, the Lord will grant his prayer.

October 15 | Proverbs 27:17

Pray for relationships to form between the McKay family and the people of the church that will provide support, encouragement, and godly friendships.

October 16 | Ephesians 6:19

Pray that the Holy Spirit's anointing will be upon Pastor Will with words filled with power and authority to speak into the lives of all the people, for this is a work only God can do.

October 17 | Ephesians 6:20

Pray that as an ambassador of Christ, Pastor Will may boldly represent God among men and men to God.

October 18 | Ephesians 6:18

May we as the church support the McKays at all times through persevering prayer.

October 19 | Philippians 1:9-11

Pray for Pastor Will's love for the Body to overflow as he continues to grow in knowledge and understanding of what is of greatest importance, being filled with the fruit of righteousness produced in his life by Christ Jesus.

October 20 | Hebrews 12:14

Pray for Pastor Will to continually hold the standard of holiness before the people.

October 21 | Ephesians 3:19

Pray that the McKay family will experience Christ's love and provision here at First Baptist beyond their expectation so that they will be made complete with all the fulness and power that comes from God.

October 22 | Colossians 1:9-11

Pray for Pastor Will to be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding so that he may walk worthy of the Lord and bear fruit in every good work



October Prayer Guide

A Prayer Guide for Pastor Will McKay and his family

October 23 | Galatians 1:10-11

Pray for Pastor Will to seek God's favor in all that he preaches and teaches as a servant of God.

October 24 | John 7:38

Pray that the Holy Spirit will provide a fresh supply of living water to the hearts and minds of the entire church staff each day that refreshes and renews them to do the Kingdom work among us.

October 25 | 2 Corinthians 9:8

Pray that God will make every grace overflow to our ministers, so that in every way, always having everything they need, they will each excel in every good work.

October 26 | Ecclesiastes 12:9-11

Pray for the Lord to pour out wisdom upon Pastor Will that he may pass on to the people, presenting this wisdom in ways that will help us understand the truth and application of the Word to our lives.

October 27 | Job 10:23

Pray for Will and Jennie McKay to have confidence that when presented with personal or family challenges, the Lord knows where they are going and will bring them through, refined and stronger for God's purposes.

October 28 | James 5:16

As Pastor Will and the ministerial staff intercede on behalf of the people, may they be undergirded with the promise of Scripture that the earnest prayers of these righteous ones have great power.

October 29 | Luke 22:31-32

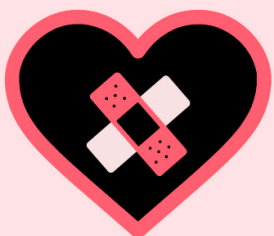
Pray that in any season of shaking, Pastor Will would be strengthened to continue his mission under the power of the Holy Spirit.

October 30 | Galatians 2:5

Pray for Pastor Will to remain faithful to the Gospel message and accurately represent the Lord in all things.

October 31 | Zechariah 2:5

Pray that the Lord Himself will be a wall of fire around Pastor Will and his family.



BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, October 12

5:00-8:30 pm

Welcome Center of main church building

Sign up in the Welcome Center or contact
the church office at 270-753-1854.

2022 WORLD MISSION OFFERING

	2021	2022
WMO TOTAL GOAL	\$154,000	\$161,702
INTERNATIONAL		
LOTTIE MOON (INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS)	\$55,000	\$57,750
GLOBAL HUNGER RELIEF (SEND RELIEF)	\$2,200	\$2,310
BRAZIL MISSION TRIPS	\$5,500	\$5,775
A.M.O.R.	\$5,500	\$5,775
GIDEONS	\$2,750	\$2,888
SEND RELIEF	\$4,400	\$4,620
ZIMBABWE MISSION TRIP	\$1,650	\$1,733
GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP	\$3,300	\$0
ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE	\$3,300	\$3,465
ZIMBABWE DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY	\$3,300	\$3,465
TOTAL INTERNATIONAL	\$86,900	\$87,781
NORTH AMERICA		
ANNIE ARMSTRONG (NORTH AMER MISSIONS)	\$15,400	\$16,170
CHRYSLIS INTERVENTIONS	\$1,650	\$1,733
STEVE HALE MINISTRIES	\$1,100	\$1,155
NAVIGATORS	\$3,300	\$3,465
TOTAL NORTH AMERICA	\$21,450	\$22,523
STATE AND LOCAL		
ELIZA BROADUS (KENTUCKY MISSIONS)	\$7,700	\$8,085
MAIN STREET YOUTH CENTER	\$2,200	\$3,150
SOUP FOR THE SOUL	\$2,200	\$3,150
BAPTIST CAMPUS MINISTRIES	\$9,900	\$10,395
SUNRISE CHILDREN SERVICES	\$7,700	\$8,085
LIFE HOUSE	\$3,300	\$3,465
KENTUCKY DISASTER RELIEF	\$1,100	\$1,155
NEARTOWN	\$1,100	\$2,940
SUMMER IMPACT	\$1,650	\$1,733
TOTAL STATE AND LOCAL	\$36,850	\$42,158
SPECIAL NEEDS	\$8,800	\$9,240
GRAND TOTAL	\$154,000	\$161,702



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

6:00-7:30 PM

MIDWEEK SESSION 2: SEPTEMBER 28

Bring your family and join us on Wednesday evenings for a time of fellowship and in-depth Bible studies. Children meet on the 1st and 2nd floors of the Education Building, students meet in the FLC Worship Center, and adults meet on the 3rd floor of the Education Building. You can also volunteer to serve in kids or student ministry. Email Rachel Riquelme at rriquelme@fbcmurray.org for Kids Ministry, and Jon Kyle Allred at jallred@fbcmurray.org for Student Ministry.

- Jason Ellerbrook is leading *The Life Of A Jesus Follower* in room 303 (men only)
- Casey Springer is leading *Jude* by Jackie Hill Perry in room 306 (women only)
- Debbie Plummer is facilitating a Bible Reading Group in room 301 (women only)

LET'S PLAY PICKLEBALL!



**FBC MURRAY
FAMILY LIFE CENTER**



SENIOR ADULTS: MONDAYS | 9:00-11:00 AM

ADVANCED PLAYERS: MONDAYS | 6:00 PM

BEGINNER/NOVICE PLAYERS: TUESDAYS | 6:00 PM

Blessing Box

This month's items are pasta and spaghetti sauce! Items can be dropped off in the basket by the banner in the Welcome Center.

Sunday School classes and families are invited to sign up to adopt the Blessing Box in Riviera Courts for a week at a time.

The need is greater than ever with the rising cost of food!

Sign up at fbcmurray.org/serve!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

Layla Allred joined by Profession of Faith/Baptism on Sunday, August 28.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

Fellowship Suppers are on Wednesday evenings at 5:00 pm in the Family Life Center! Adult meals are \$5, children ages 3-12 are \$3, college students are \$1, and children 2 and under are free. Each week will include the following: vegetable side item, salad, bread, desserts, and drinks.

- **October 5:** No meal (fall break)
- **October 12:** Lasagna beef and chicken
- **October 19:** Ham sliders/meatloaf sliders
- **October 26:** Chicken Taco Soup

THANK YOU NOTES

Evelyn Bolin thanked FBC for the prayers and support during the passing of her husband, Duane Bolin.

Debbie Settle thanked FBC for the celebration of her 50th anniversary of working at FBC.

RADIO/TV

Our 10:30 am worship service is aired at 10:30 am on WAAJ-FM 89.7. Our services are also broadcast on Thursday at 8:00 pm on Murray Electric System's channel 15.

CHURCH INFORMATION

FINANCES (AS OF AUGUST 31, 2022)

\$ 964,705.00	Budgeted as of 08/31/2022
\$ 867,521.45	Budget Receipts as of 08/31/2022
\$ 937,503.57	Budget Expenditures as of 08/31/2022
\$ 161,702.00	WMO 2022 Goal
\$ 53,531.76	WMO Receipts as of 08/31/2022

VAN DRIVER

The van driver for the month of October is David Barrett. If you would like a ride to Sunday School (9:15 am) or the worship service (10:30 am), contact David at 731-363-5737.

ATTENDANCE

	10:30 am Service
August 28	516
September 4	394
September 11	410
September 18	321



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